

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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April 15, 2008

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

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The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR FY 2007-08

GENERAL RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

(ALL DISTRICTS - 4 VOTES)

<u>SUBJECT</u>

The General Relief (GR) Program is a County-funded program that provides temporary cash aid to indigent adults and certain sponsored legal immigrant families who are ineligible for federal or State programs. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-08 expenditures are projected to exceed the budgeted level by \$1.8 million.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve the attached Appropriation Adjustment for the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) FY 2007-08 GR assistance program in the amount of \$1.8 million. Approval of this Appropriation Adjustment will allow DPSS to continue to provide assistance payments to the County's GR program participants.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

There has been a significant increase in caseload. The budgeted number of aided cases for FY 2007-08 is 722,093 (a monthly average of 60,174), a 2.7% increase from the FY 2006-07 actual caseload. With eight months of actual data, the Department has revised the caseload projection to 736,816 (a monthly average of 61,401), an increase of 4.8% from the FY 2006-07 actual caseload.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommended action is consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan: Goal #1 Service Excellence: Provide the public with easy access to quality information and

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services that are both beneficial and responsive and Goal #3 Organizational Effectiveness: Ensure that service delivery systems are efficient, effective, and goal-oriented.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The FY 2007-08 Adopted Budget reflects appropriation for GR of \$154,795,000. Due to higher expenditures resulting from increasing caseloads, the current GR budget requires an appropriation of \$156,595,000. Therefore, an appropriation increase of \$1.8 million is needed to provide cash benefits to eligible GR participants for the remainder of the fiscal year. The \$1.8 million increase will be offset by \$1.8 million from over-realized prior year revenue in the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The General Relief program is mandated by the California Welfare & Institutions Code section 17000, and the Los Angeles County Code, Title 2 - Administration, Chapter 2.102 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Approval of the appropriation increase will be used to continue providing assistance payments to the County's GR program participants for the remainder of FY 2007-08.

CONCLUSION

The Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, is requested to return one adopted, stamped Board letter to the Director of DPSS.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA Chief Executive Officer

WTF:SRH:MS GP:JB:cvb Attachment

 Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors County Counsel
 Department of Public Social Services Auditor-Controller

Final GR Assistance Program Board Letter.doc